GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1301
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2016
SCs/STs and OBCs in Higher Education
Meena Shri Harish Chandra

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the enrolment of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and Other Backward Class students in higher studies fallen during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to ensure sustained enrolment of socially disadvantaged students in higher education?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (b): As can be seen from the table given below, the enrolment of Scheduled Castes (SCs), and Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) in higher studies during the last three years has not fallen.
<pre>
Enrolment of SC, ST and OBC Students in Higher Education
Year Scheduled Castes Scheduled Tribes Other Backward Classes
2012-13 38,47,942 13,20,361 94,16,299
2013-14 42,38,207 14,86,512 1,04,64.043
2014-15(P) 44,63,734 15,86,368 1,09,45,061
Source − AISHE, MHRD (P − Provisional)
</pre>
(c): Government has taken several measures to increase the enrollment of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes in higher education. The University Grants Commission implements several schemes/measures such as Rajiv Gandhi National fellowships for SC/ST students, post-graduate scholarships for SC/ST students, post-doctoral fellowships for SC/ST students, coaching schemes for SC/ST students, establishment of Equal Opportunity Cells and Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy centres in universities, etc.
The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs also have scholarship schemes for SC/ST students like Post-Matric scholarship for SC/ST students, Central Sector Scholarship Scheme of Top class Education for SC/ST students and National Overseas Scholarship for SC/ST students.

The Ministry of Social Justice has taken several measures to increase the enrollment of OBC Students such as Pre-Matric Scholarship to the OBCs, Post-Matric Scholarship to the OBCs, Construction of Hostel for OBC boys and girls, assistance to Voluntary Organizations for the Welfare of OBCs, National Fellowship for OBCs, Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Interest Subsidy on Educationally Backward Classes (OBCs) and Economically Backward Classes (EBCs) and Dr. Ambedkar Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for EBC Students.

*****